

January 12th, 2025 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

The Roman Catholic Church of St. John the Baptist Parish

Administered by the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart

4050 Durham Road, Ottsville, PA 18942

Phone 610-847-5521 * Fax 610-847-5522 * www.stjohnsottsville.org



THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING MASS WITH US TODAY.

WE ARE GLAD YOU CAME!

PARISH STAFF

Pastor: Rev. Selvaraj Lucas, M.S.C.
Director of Religious Education: Mary Ann Corcoran
Finance Manager: Carolyn Marchese
Parish Secretary: Rebecca Tirpok
Bulletin/Website: Carolyn Marchese
Facilities Manager: Thomas Rimmer

MASS TIMES

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:00pm
Sunday: 8:00am & 10:30am
Mon- Fri: 9:00am (Thursday at old St. John's Church)
Holy Days: 9:00am & 7:00pm
CONFESSION: Saturdays 4:15pm - 4:45pm or by appt.

Register in the Parish: Please contact the Parish Office to register when you move into our parish.

Certificates of Eligibility: May be issued only to registered parishioners who currently reside within our parish boundaries, who have been registered parishioners at least six months, are 16 yrs. and older, who have received all their Sacraments of Initiation, and are actively practicing their faith in our parish.

BAPTISMS: The Sacrament of Baptism may be scheduled to take place on a Saturday at 10am or 11am; or on a Sunday following at 11:45am. Parents and at least one Godparent are to attend our Enrichment class prior to the Baptism. You will need to call the Parish Office to register for this class. Godparents must be committed, practicing Catholics, over the age of 16, and if from another parish, must provide a *Certificate of Eligibility* from their pastor. A Christian of another denomination may serve as a Christian Witness alongside a Catholic Godparent.



MARRIAGE: The Sacrament of Matrimony Mass may be celebrated no later than 1pm on Saturdays. Couples planning marriage are to contact the Parish Office & schedule a meeting with our Pastor no later than 6 months in advance of the planned wedding date. Couples are to attend a Pre-Cana program approved by our Diocese.



ANOINTING OF THE SICK: Please call the Parish Office at any time to request a visit from our Pastor for Anointing of the Sick. Communion will be brought to the sick and homebound by our Pastor or one of our Communion Ministers upon request. **We celebrate a Communal Anointing of the Sick in June, near the Feast of St. John the Baptist.**



Mass Intentions

Week of January 13th – January 19th, 2025

Monday: † Marie Long (*Mike & Mary Kosmin*)
Tuesday: † Helene Bell (*Georgina Puente*)
Wednesday: † Bill Saxton (*Georgina Puente*)
Thursday: Intentions of Joan Beebe (*Jim & Joan Black*)
Friday: † Marie Louzon (*Georgina Puente*)

Weekend Masses

Saturday 5pm: † Livi Beltran-Fernandez (*Gina Giarratana*)
Sunday 8am: Parishioners' Intentions
Sunday 10:30am: † Florence Niewood (*Scheliga Family*)

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon–Fri 9am–5pm.

To plan a Baptism, Wedding, Funeral, private Confession, please contact our Pastor, Fr. Selvaraj Lucas through the Parish Office.

WEEKLY MASS COLLECTIONS

December 29th - Envelopes \$5,572- E-Giving \$2,671
January 5th - Envelopes \$7,799 - E-Giving \$4,851
Christmas \$14,762 - Solemnity of Mary \$1,488
THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!

WEEKLY MINISTRY MEETINGS

Mon. Jan 13: Prayer Shawl – Marian Room– 7pm
Wed. Jan 15: Flame of Love - Chapel – 8am
Wed. Jan 15: Intercessory Prayer * – Zoom - 6:30pm
** Email Laura at sjbevangel@stjohnsottville.org to join in prayer, or to submit prayer requests."*



A PRAYER FOR PEACE

O Jesus! My Lord and My God! I trust in you, O Prince of Peace!
I pray that you will help all people of this world
to be united as one with You as Our Lord and Savior!
Jesus, I trust in You!



Please consider a leaving a legacy to St. John the Baptist Parish. A gift to SJB in your will enables you to support the Church and makes a difference in the lives of future generations. Thank you. God bless.

FROM YOUR PASTOR

The baptism of our lord was more a symbolic gesture than being a sacramental one because in our baptism we are cleansed from our original sins, and Christ was born without original sin. Consequently, the baptism of our lord reveals his humility to us.

To receive baptism is a human act. After all, no one baptizes himself or herself. Whereas in accepting John’s baptism, Jesus fully embraced what it means to be a human person, with all of humanity’s weakness, limitations, and suffering. Jesus, the Son of God, humbled himself in this way showing that he chose humility as the way that he would redeem us. By accepting our humanity, and humbly embracing death, Jesus shows us how much God loves us, that is what John, in the gospel, expounds.

The voice of the father is heard proclaiming; “you are my Son, the beloved; with you I am well pleased.” And the spirit of the lord comes down on him like a dove. Hence the scene of the lord’s baptism inaugurates His public ministry.

St. Luke the evangelist familiarizes the lord’s ministry through the proclamation of John the Baptist; “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with Holy Spirit and fire.”

Jesus helps us to understand that baptism is an act of humility, act of service, act of love and act proclaiming our faith.

Sincerely in Our Lord

REV. S. LUCAS MSC

Pastor, St. John the Baptist Parish

POPE FRANCIS’ PRAYER FOR PEACE

Lord God of peace, hear our prayer!

We have tried so many times and over so many years to resolve our conflicts by our own powers and by the force of our arms. How many moments of hostility and darkness have we experienced; how much blood has been shed; how many lives have been shattered; how many hopes have been buried... But our efforts have been in vain.

Now, Lord, come to our aid! Grant us peace, teach us peace; guide us to our steps in the way of peace. Open our eyes and our hearts and give us the courage to say: "Never again war!"; "With war everything is lost". Instill in our hearts the courage to take concrete steps to achieve peace.

Lord, God of Abraham, God of the Prophets, God of Love, you created us and you call us to live as brothers and sisters. Give us the strength daily to be instruments of peace; enable us to see everyone who crosses our path as our brother or sister. Make us sensitive to the plea of our citizens who entreat us to turn our weapons of war into implements of peace, our trepidation into confident trust, and our quarreling into forgiveness.

Keep alive within us the flame of hope, so that with patience and perseverance we may opt for dialogue and reconciliation. In this way may peace triumph at last, and may the words "division", "hatred" and "war" be banished from the heart of every man and woman. Lord, defuse the violence of our tongues and our hands. Renew our hearts and minds, so that the word which always brings us together will be "brother", and our way of life will always be that of: Shalom, Peace, Salaam! Amen



PRAYERS TO ST. PEREGRINE

Every Tuesday morning, following the 9am Mass, we will be praying to St. Peregrine for those who are suffering from cancer and other diseases.

Please join us in praying for all who are suffering.

Holy Communion for the Sick & Homebound



Are you or a family member unable to attend Mass and receive Holy Communion? If you'd like to receive Holy Communion, please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521.

We will make arrangements to bring the Lord to you.

THIS WEEKEND!

PARISH SOCIAL AFTER MASS

PLEASE STOP BY!



This weekend we'll have a Parish Social after each Mass. All are welcome to stay, enjoy hospitality & get to know your church family. Hope to see you!



WE NEED HELP TO TAKE DOWN THE CHRISTMAS TREE AND DECORATIONS AT CHURCH THIS MONDAY AFTER THE 9:00AM MASS.

Friday, January 17, 2025 - 7-8:30 PM in the Chapel
Event: Our Lady of Hope, Her approved apparition in Pontmain, France.



Our Lady of Hope, also known as Our Lady of Pontmain, is a title given to the Virgin Mary after she is said to have appeared to six children in Pontmain, France on January 17, 1871, during the Franco-Prussian War.

**This is the Jubilee
Year of Hope!**

Have you experienced suffering in your life? Are you dealing with a sense of hopelessness?

Please join us for a presentation to learn more about **Our Lady of Hope** and **SJB Red Rosary of Hope Ministry**.

Light refreshments will be served.

Questions? Please contact: Anita Colahan
amcolahan@epix.net

See the display in the Narthex for more information!

PREP PARISH RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Religion Classes for Children who attend Public School, or non-Catholic Private School, are held on Monday evenings, September to May at St. John the Baptist Parish from 6:15PM-7:30PM. Parents of New Students (1st graders or students who have never attended Religious Education at SJB) should contact the Religious Education Office at **610-847-5521** or prep@stjohnsottsville.org to arrange an appt. to register. To register a New Student, parents need the child's Birth Certificate & Baptism Certificate (unless baptized at SJB), Fee of \$200 for one child for PREP for year.

Dear Friends of The Lord's Pantry-



During January, would you please consider donating **Chunky soups, canned tuna, canned chicken and corn beef hash** to benefit our struggling

families affected by the increased prices of staple. We believe that with God's blessings and the help of our community, we can show our support for those most in need. Thank you for your generosity!

God bless, The Lord's Pantry Volunteers



GOD'S BLESSINGS ON
THE BAPTISM OF
LEVI KEVIN NUTT

Attention Parishioners!

The Parish Office is collecting parishioners' emails from those who would like to be informed of events that occur with short notice (example, funerals). The forms to sign up are in the Narthex. Please complete the form and place it in the provided box. Thank you!

GREETINGS FROM ACROSS CAMPUS!



We hope our parish family had a wonderful Christmas and wish everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

The Student Council participated in a Christmas sale, successfully delivering flowers and chocolates to the shut-ins from our parish. Our parishioners look forward to this event every year. If you know of anyone who would appreciate a visit from the Student Council, please notify the school office at 610-847-5523.

Here at the Academy, we celebrated the Epiphany of our Lord a day late due to the snow. The children searched their cupcakes for the baby, and once the baby was found, they received a king's crown.

The Academy will host our annual Spaghetti Dinner on January 25th. Please plan to attend; live music and a wonderful dinner are in store.

Have a wonderful and warm week.

Regards, Tami Koerber, Head of School



**Join the
Cleaning Team!**

**Wk. of January 12th
TEAM 3**

This is a once per month commitment.

MINI CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



We raised \$1,343.00 in the month of December for the mini-Christmas bazaar. I would like to thank you for all of the beautiful items I received and thank all of the generous buyers. I would also like to thank Marianne Scott & Patti Townsend for their support with selling the products. There will be another bazaar for 2 weekends in July; stay tuned!

God Bless, Kim



MARCH FOR LIFE

The largest human rights demonstration is taking place this month in Washington D.C. We invite you to join us as we prepare to travel to our nation's capital for the National March for Life! As of right now, St. Andrew's Parish in Newtown, PA is preparing a bus for transportation to the March for Life.

The cost is \$40 per person or \$80 max per family – reserve your seat now and help us fill the buses! Checks payable to "St. Andrew Respect Life Ministry" can be dropped off at the Rectory Office. For more information and to reserve your seat, call Mike Phillips at (267) 797-0186 or email at mikeflips@yahoo.com. As of right now, St Andrew's Parish group has seats available so please contact Mike Phillips and/or our board members if you are interested in attending!

For more information please visit: <https://marchforlife.org/>

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The 2025 Lecture Series
SAVE THE DATE:
FEBRUARY 3, 2025,
7:00 p.m.

The John Cardinal Foley Chair at **SAINT CHARLES BORROMEO SEMINARY** is pleased to announce The 2025 Lecture Series featured speaker on "The Church and Social Communication"

MONTSE ALVARADO

President & Chief Operating Officer of EWTN News, Ms. Alvarado served as an Emcee of the 10th Annual National Eucharistic Congress and is the recipient of the 2024 Religious Freedom Impact Award.



This event is free and open to the public.

More information about the Lecture Series can be found on the Cardinal Foley Chair webpage at www.scs.edu/chairs/foley-chair-of-social-communications/cardinal-foley-lecture-series/.

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MONDAY EVENING 7PM–8PM. Our Lady's Chapel
WEDNESDAY MORNING 10AM–11AM. Our Lady's Chapel

THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

12PM-1PM. ST. Joseph's Chapel (large chapel, name on front of the building)

FIRST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH

BEGINS AT 10AM Mass, Rosary, Confession and Luncheon (free).

EVERYONE IS WELCOME! PLEASE JOIN US IN PRAYER.

To schedule your retreat and for additional information please call Joan Black at 215-795-2947

~SAVE THE DATE~ "Live the Mass"

ENCORE Women's Retreat at Czestochowa Shrine.
Friday Eve, March 28th to Sunday afternoon, March 30th, 2025

JANUARY 12TH, 2025 – THE BAPTISM OF THE LORD

JANUARY 18TH & 19TH, 2025

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

	Communion Minister	Lector	Altar Server	Music Ministry
SATURDAY 5PM	Dorothy Cegielski Lynn Gammello Peg Glancey	Jane Ferry	Julia & Alyssa Byers Blake Nowicki	Anita Colahan Karen Parash
SUNDAY 8AM	Jim McHugh Renee Moyer Bea Romaszewski	Marie Burke	Need 3 Volunteers	Needed
SUNDAY 10:30AM	Samantha Campbell Wendy DeGroot Laura Gumprecht	Sean Lynch	Elia, Fatu & Siri Logaivau	Ordinary Time



PLEASE PRAY FOR...



OUR SICK:

Jessie Alfaro, Lou Bucci, Baby Conner & his Parents, Roger Bahnck Sr., John Becker, Wanda Bickel, Loretta Bodisch, Lillian Buckley, Eileen Carlineo, Katie Carty, Steve & Patty Combs, Maryanne Comly, Lou Cooper, Maria D'Angelo, Barbara Docs, Marvin Eichlin, Joe Fekete, Betty Fleck, Ron Freeland, Gabriella Froehlich, Jean Furmaniak, Marie & Rosalyn Giardullo, Peg Glancey, Kathy & Mark Hancharik, Maryann Hauber, Sylvia Holznagel, Sheila Haney Kaisen, John Klinges, Pat Kreschollek, Chris Leahy, Mark Leidtke, Nate Leidtke, Ray Malachowski, Roseann McCarty, Xavier McDonald, Bridget McHugh, Joyce Melchiorre, Michael Moreni, Kay Mule, Nancy Moreno, Helene Nastro, Jimmy O'Hanlon, Jeff Olimpo, Robert Parash, Erin Rogers Pickering, Janet Reidler, Fr. Tony Ripp, MSC, Barbara Sabath, Adriana Salvucci, Thomas Shepherd, Megan Slabicki, Bella Sosa, Tony Souza, Bernadette Strzelecki, Simon Tirpok, Fr. Joseph Tobias, MSC, Bambina Ventresca, Helen Wall, Ed Wismer, Judy Woodroffe

**If you would like a prayer shawl for yourself or for someone you know,
please call the Parish Office at 610-847-5521 or email tojo@epix.net.**

If someone no longer needs prayers, please advise the Parish Office so that we may keep the list up to date.

OUR TROOPS:



May God protect and watch over our troops



Jamie Steven Ayuso, Fionna M. Boyle, Derek Brosius, Christopher Brune, Kyle Crossland, David Fisher, Anthony J. Fleck, Joseph V. Fleck, Michael Froeder, A.J. Giovino, Aaron Given, Michael Griffin, Matthew Gumprecht, Bob Hankinson, Victor Hormilla, Aileen Lauer, Stephen Lindmeier, Dan O'Connor, McKenna Pason, Dusty Rhodes, Steven Salva, Kate Salva, Jack Salva, Ann Salva, Steven Siegert, Kendall Smith

A Prayer for OUR FIRST RESPONDERS:

Lord, please watch over all the men & women who work as first responders. We pray for their safety and that they return to their families at the end of each shift. We give thanks for their selfless service, compassion and care for everyone. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen



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